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April 29, 1980

The Press Office
Bureau of African Affairs
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Sirs,

I recently met with Mr. Gilchrist Olympio, whose written and verbal allegations form the basis of the attached report which I plan to publish in the Update section of AFRICA REPORT.

I would appreciate a State Department comment on the item, particularly with regard to Olympio's criticism of the U.S. stance. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Anthony J. Hughes
Editor

AJH/bk

Attch.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/GDS/MR
REVIEWED BY [illegible] DATE 4/27/83
[illegible] EXT. DATE
TO [illegible] DOCS (S)
ENCLOSURE [illegible]
DECLASSIFY [illegible] RELEASABLE [✓]
RELEASE DENIED [ ]
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

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TO file

TOGO

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President Carter has been criticized by emigre political leaders from Togo for allegedly being "soft" on human rights violations in their country. Gilchrist S. Olympio, spokesman for the exile Togolese Movement for Democracy (MTD) told Update: "We think the United States should be more activist in pressing for the restoration of basic civil rights in the country. People should have the right to sleep soundly in their beds and to wake up in the morning."

He called upon President Carter to take a stronger position against the regime of General Eyadema, in line with his declared championship of human rights.

Olympio, a son of Togo's first President assasinated in 1963, alleges that there are over 350 permanent political detainees in the country. He claims that many other people are arbitrarily detained for shorter periods. His party also alleges widespread torture and intimidation and he produced a document with names and other details of persons alleged to have suggered torture and other deprivation of rights.

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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

FOI Case No. 8102496

SEP 9 1983

Mr. Paul R. Michaud
101 Lockwood Street
West Warwick, R.I. 02893

Dear Mr. Michaud:

I refer to your letter of June 20, 1981 requesting the release of certain Department of State documents under the Freedom of Information Act (Title 5 USC Section 552).

A further search of files under the Department's control has resulted in the retrieval of 11 more documents which appear relevant to your request. After careful review, we have determined that eight of these documents can be released. Two more can be released subject to excisions. One must be withheld from release.

All the denied and excised material (unless otherwise specified below) has been determined to be properly exempt from release under Paragraph (b)(1) of Section 552 as currently and properly classified under Executive Order 12356 and authorized by that Order to remain protected in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. All non-exempt material in the excised documents that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material is released herewith.

It has been determined that the release of one document must be denied under Paragraph (b)(5) of Section 552 as they constitute inter-agency or intra-agency memoranda or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with this agency.

With respect to material denied or excised, you have the right to appeal this determination within sixty days. Appeals should be addressed to the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D. C. 20520. A letter of appeal should refer to the Freedom of Information case number shown above.

Sincerely,

Edward Holmes

for John R. Burke
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Administration
Classification/Declassification Center

Subpart G—Appeals Procedures

§ 171.60 Appeal of denial of access to records.

(a) Review of an initial denial of access to a record under the Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552), the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a), or Executive Order 12065 may be requested by the individual who submitted the initial request for access. The request for review (hereinafter referred to as the appeal) must be in writing and should be sent by certified mail to the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, Chairman, Appeals Review Panels, Department of State, 2201 C street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20520. The appeal should be received within 60 days of the date of receipt by the appellant of the Department's refusal to grant access to a record in whole or in part.

(b) The time for decision on the appeal begins on the date the appeal is received by the Chairman, Appeals Review Panels. The appeal of a denial of access to records shall include any documentation, information and statements to support the individual's request for access and to refute the use of the exemption(s) cited in the Department's justification concerning the denial of access.

(c) The Chairman of the Appeals Panels or her/his designee and at least two other members chosen by her/him from a list of senior officers designated for this purpose by the various bureaus of the Department shall constitute a panel to consider and decide the appeal. There shall be a written record of the reasons for the final determination. The final determination will be made within 30 working days for Executive Order and Privacy Act appeals, and within 20 working days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays) for FOIA appeals. For good cause shown, the Chairman of the Appeals Review Panels may extend such determination beyond the 30-day period in Privacy Act cases.

(d) The Chairman shall then notify the requester in writing of the panel's decision to grant access and of the Department's regulations concerning access.

(e) When the final decision of the Panel is to refuse to grant an individual access to a record, the Chairman of the Panel shall advise the individual in writing:

(1) of the refusal to grant the appeal and the reasons therefor including the exemptions of the Freedom of Information Act, the Privacy Act of 1974, and/or Executive Order 12065 under which access is denied;

(2) of her/his right to seek judicial review of the Department's decision, where applicable.